

HA-219

c. 1867

Archer Building
17 Courtland Street
Bel Air
Private

Built shortly after the Civil War by Herman Stump and Henry Archer for use as lawyers offices, its serene facade is testimony to the restrained taste of Bel Air's citizens. It had four suites of offices and remains virtually unchanged today.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HA-219
1302194511

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Archer Building

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

17 Courtland Street

1st

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

J. Leo Sullivan/Margaret Lucas

Telephone #: 838-4700

STREET & NUMBER

17 Courtland Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21014

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: 650 1066
Folio #: 534 1033

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

KA-317

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Archer Building is on the south side of Courtland Street across from the courthouse in Bel Air, Harford County, Maryland. It is a five bay, two story brick building with a hipped roof with an interior chimney, newer than the building, inside the east elevation. The front (north) elevation shows double-hung 6/6 windows flanking a vaguely Greek revival entry with long, three pane window lights, a six-pane transom and double doors, paneled below, glass above. The west elevation, on the alley is window-less; the east elevation is up against the next building. The rear (south) elevation is made up of three bays. The outside bays, containing a pair of double-hung windows on each level, (some 6/6, some 2/2, some 1/1 apparently as they needed to be replaced) flank the central bay, with a 6/6 double hung window in the stair landing and an 8'5" x 14'3" single story gable roofed shed which contains a bathroom on each side of the hall leading to the rear door.

The interior is a central hall plan with two offices on each side. A dog-leg open-string staircase rises along the west side of the hall. The turned newel post, balusters and stair rail are original. Upstairs, besides the two offices on each side of the hall, there is a small chamber of probably 20th century origin over the first floor entry.

When Major Robert Archer bought the building in 1925 he made sever renovations. He moved the three outside steps indoors, adding paneling below the window lights and dropping the doors to ground level. He also added two swinging doors at the top of the steps inside. He had a cellar excavated, placed the cellar door and steps under the hall staircase, added central heating, electricity and the rear shed containing the bathrooms. The four cellar windows were installed at this time. The interior is remarkably untouched except for the paneling of Mr. Leo Sullivan's office and the replacement of three upstairs doors. In the cellar one may observe a thick layer of plaster and animal hair, placed between the floor and subflooring for insulation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

NA-219

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1867

BUILDER ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Henry Archer and Herman Stump

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This remarkably preserved pleasantly situated office building is the only nineteenth century building in the square around the courthouse which retains its original function. It was built shortly after the Civil War, by Herman Stump and Henry Archer as lawyers offices. In every generation at least one Archer lawyer has occupied one of its offices, among them Henry W. Archer, James J. Archer, Major Robert Archer, and at present, J. Glasgow Archer, Jr. The building is currently owned by attorney J. Leo Sullivan and his daughter Mrs. Margaret Lucas. For the first time in 110 years no Archer holds an interest in the building.

Brief biographies of prominent owners or occupants are attached.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

KA-219

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford Democrat

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Archer Building occupies parcel #836 in the Town of Bel Air, Md.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. Larew

5 January 1979

ORGANIZATION

Town of Bel Air

DATE

838-8700

STREET & NUMBER

39 Hickory Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE
ARCHER BUILDING

1066/1033	1978 J. Glasgow Archer, Jr. & Mary K., wife to Margaret S. Lucas 1/2 interest
475/11	Elizabeth B. Archer to J. Glasgow Archer, Jr., & Mary K., wife 1/2 interest
650/534	John Archer & Miriam to J. Leo Sullivan & Mary, wife the other half
419/378	9-7-54 Margaret Townsley to John Archer & Elizabeth B. Archer
419/375	Elizabeth B. Archer, widow; Robert H. Archer & Doris, wife; & John Archer & Miriam, wife; heirs of Major Robert Archer (died 7/31/48; will RLW 22/106) to Margaret Townsley (Straw Man?)
221/485	J. Glasgow Archer, Sr., & Elizabeth, wife to Major Robert H. Archer 1/16/31
195/169	10/21/25 W. Worthington Hopkins to Major Robert H. Archer & Juanita, wife J. Glasgow Archer, Jr., assignee of mortgage of Robert & Juanita Archer to H. Willard Tarring (196/323) in default sold the property to J. Glasgow Archer, Sr. \$6425

195/168

19 September 1925

Robert H. Archer, Trustee
to

W. Worthington Hopkins

\$7000 at private sale

Archer was trustee for sale of the property in the court case (1925) of John Potter Archer & Carroll D., his wife vs. William S. Archer, Elizabeth A. Bruen, Ann A. De Goll, Mary A. Archer, C. Graham Archer, Alice P. Archer, Henry Philip Archer, & Safe Deposit & Trust Co., of Baltimore.

The case was the result of the tangled inherited shares in the property as the result of the deaths of Henry W., Robert, and James J. Archer who had undivided thirds of the property. As an example of the confusion, Elizabeth A. Bruen and Anna de Goll each had the right to 11/90 of the property absolutely and 1/90 for life. The suit settled what percentage each claimant was entitled to and forced sale and distribution of the proceeds.

Henry Archer's will (1910) is HTB 14/151,
Robert's (1924) is CSW 17/147. James died intestate.

66/17

1890

William S. Archer et al

to

Henry W., Robert, & James J. Archer

1/2 interest

and

117/477

1906

Herman Stump and wife

to

Henry W., Robert, & James J. Archer

1/2 interest

This is part of the property Stump, Archer, and Archer purchased from Henry Farnandis, Trustee, by 19/217 (1867). They bought the whole of lot #33 on the Bel Air plat from the heirs of William Robinson. This lot was around 75 feet wide at the corner of Main Street and Courtland and extended all the way back to Bond Street.

N. R. FIELD SHEET
1302194211

HA 219

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Archer Building</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>17 Courtland Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Bel Air</u>			
STATE: <u>Maryland</u>	CODE:	COUNTY: <u>Harford</u>	CDDE:
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP	STATUS
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments: <u>Offices</u>			
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: <u>J. Glasgow Archer and Leo J. Sullivan</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>17 Courtland Street</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Bel Air</u>	STATE: <u>Md</u>	CDDE:	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <u>CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE 40 S. MAIN ST.</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>BEL AIR</u>	STATE: <u>MARYLAND</u>	CDDE:	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:			
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CDDE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Brick building, two stories, five bays,
facing north. Slate hip roof. ridge line
runs east/west.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☒20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐lasophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Built for a ~~small~~ residence, converted
early to office and residential use.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Account of Miss Sarah Torwood, April 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING		
ORGANIZATION MARYLAND HISTORIC TRUST	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: 50 STATE CIRCLE		
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE MARYLAND	CODE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
21 STATE CIRCLE
SHAW HOUSE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: HA-219

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME: The Archer Bldg.

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME: The Stump Bldg.

PRESENT USE: Lawyers' offices

ORIGINAL USE: same

ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:

Excellent (X) Good ()

Fair () Poor: ()

THEME: Architecture

STYLE: Vernacular

DATE BUILT: late 1860's

COUNTY: Harford

TOWN: Bel Air

LOCATION: 17 Courtland
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

COMMON NAME: Archer Bldg.

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Commercial

OWNER: J. Leo Sullivan and
ADDRESS: Margaret Lucas
17 Courtland, Bel Air, Md.

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Yes () No () Restricted (X)

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Local (X) State () National ()

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Structural System

1. Foundation: Stone () Brick (X) Concrete () Concrete Block ()
2. Wall Structure
 - A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam () Balloon ()
 - B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick () Stone () Concrete () Concrete Block ()
 - C. Iron () D. Steel () E. Other: Brick
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard () Board and Batten () Wood Shingle () Shiplap ()
Novelty () Stucco () Sheet Metal () Aluminum () Asphalt Shingle ()
Brick Veneer () Stone Veneer ()
Bonding Pattern: common Other:
4. Roof Structure
 - A. Truss: Wood () Iron () Steel () Concrete ()
 - B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate (X) Wood Shingle () Asphalt Shingle () Sheet Metal ()
Built Up () Rolled () Tile () Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches () Towers () Cupolas () Dormers () Chimneys (X) Sheds (X) Ells ()
Wings () Other:

Roof Style: Gable () Hip (X) Shed () Flat () Mansard () Gambrel () Jerkinhead ()
Saw Tooth () With Monitor () With Bellcast () With Parapet () With False Front ()
Other:

Number of Stories: 2

Number of Bays: 5

Approximate Dimensions: 40' x 30'

Entrance Location: Courtland St.

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:

No Threat (X) Zoning () Roads ()
Development () Deterioration ()
Alteration () Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:

Positive (X) Negative ()
Mixed () Other:

ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Interior center hall with two offices on each side. Dog-leg staircase up the west wall in the hall. Newel post turned. Turned balusters. Cellar stair underneath. Door to cellar tongue & groove lumber. Modifications made when Major Robert Archer bought it. Cellar excavated, shed added (contains restrooms), furnace installed, outside steps removed, entry lowered, two steps and interior doors added. Cellar windows added.

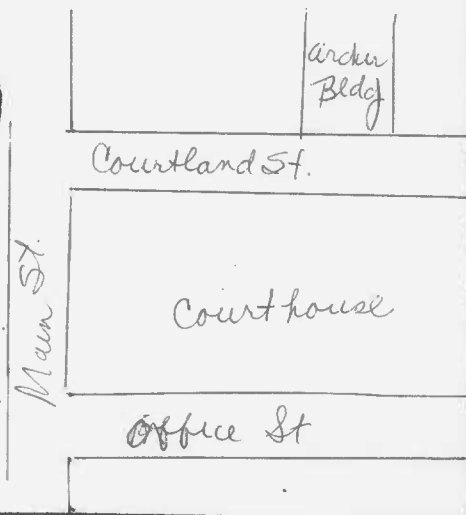
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Well preserved example of a post-Civil War office building. This building has always housed lawyers' offices and nearly always housed an Archer lawyer.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:

Open Lane() Woodland() Scattered Buildings()
 Moderately Built Up() Densely Built Up()
 Residential() Commercial()
 Agricultural() Industrial()
 Roadside Strip Development()
 Other:

M. Larew

RECORDED BY:

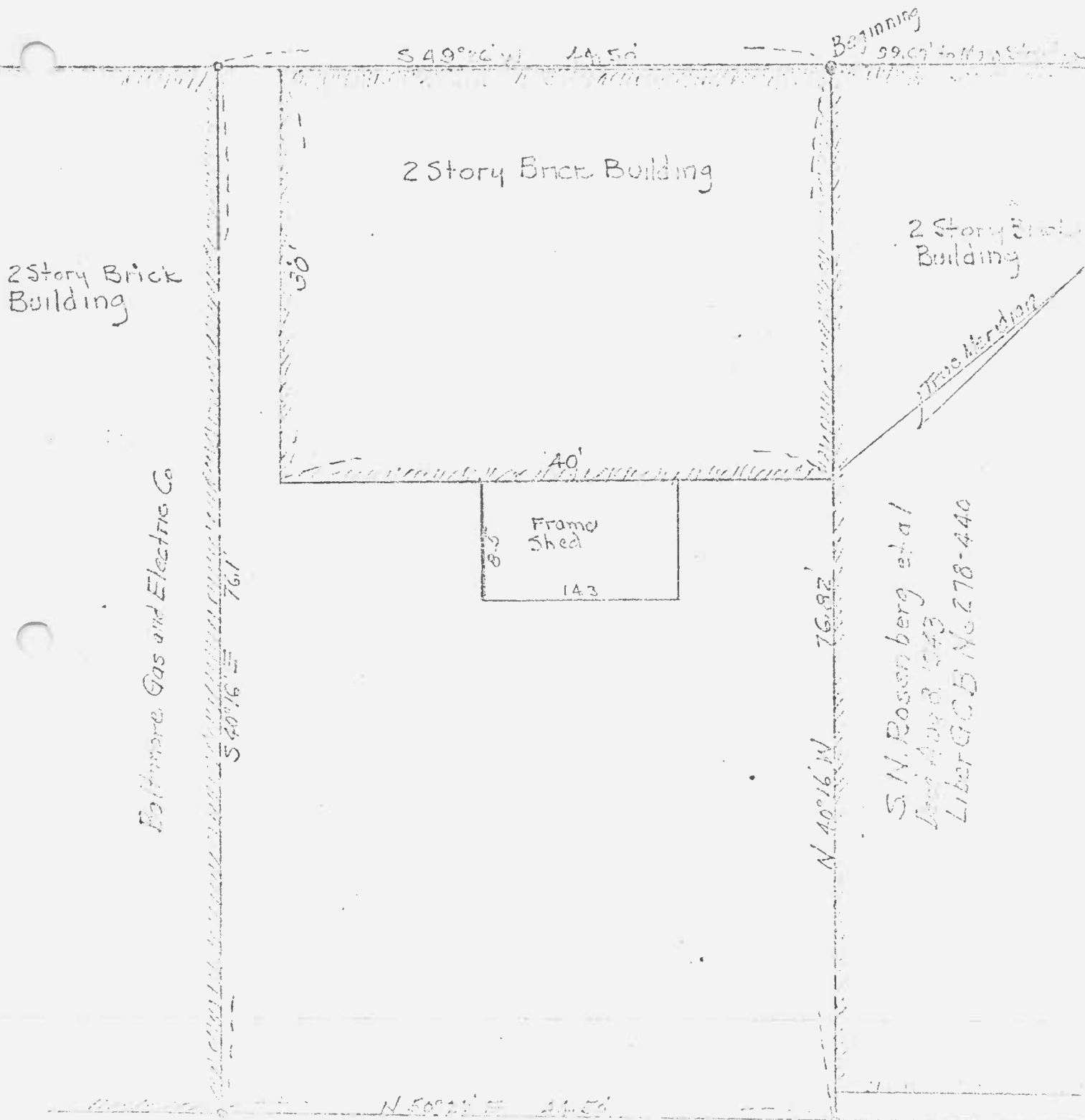
Town of Bel Air

ORGANIZATION:

January 11, 1979

DATE RECORDED:

COURTLAND STREET



7-15/14

15' Private Alley

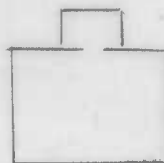
76.11 ft Street

CLARENCE C. DEAN

ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

BALTIMORE, MD.

Recorded on 11-15-14 and 11-16-14
and the return made to me by the
Baltimore City and County Clerk
on 11-16-14

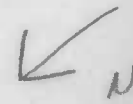


TRACED BY
M. LAREW

SANBORN MAP

THE ARCHER BLDG.
17 W. COURTLAND
BEL AIR
VA-219

SCALE 1" = 50'





Archer Building

HA-219

THIS PHOTOGRAPH
By: W. Robert Wallis
Fountain Green Road
Bel Air, Md.





